GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1403
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
FALL IN SALE OF CIGARETTE
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in cigarette sales due to increase in consumption of crude tobacco;

(b) if so, whether adding to this the ban on advertising in the media and the sports arena and the smuggling going unchecked the tobacco industry has been hit very badly; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to save the industry and workers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) & (b) : The data on the production of cigarettes in India for domestic consumption and export over the past few years is given below:

Year	Cigarette Production (In Million. Pieces) (A)	Cigarette Export (In Million Pieces) (B)	Cigarette Production for Domestic Consumption (In Million Pieces) (A) - (B)
1996-97	103895	714	103181
1997-98	106970	1205	105765
1998-99	101001	1432	99569
1999-2000	97629	1851	95778
2000-2001	96642	2016	94626
2001-2002			
(April-November)	55037	1936	53101

Source: Tobacco Board

These figures do not suggest any substantial decline in the production of cigarettes for domestic consumption.

Acting on reports on smuggling of cigarettes into India, the field formations under the Customs Department, including the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, are vigilant and alert to check smuggling of contraband goods, including cigarettes. As far as the impact on the tobacco industry of the ban on advertising of tobacco products in the media and the sporting arena is concerned, it is difficult to make any assessment at this stage.

(c) : Does not arise